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national and local finance. Its object is a systematic presentation of the facts and features of our commonwealth finance.

The first fact that strikes the attention of the student of American commonwealth finance is the decay of the financial importance of the separate states. Out of an aggregate expenditure of 916 million dollars by national, state, and local government in the year 1890, but 77 millions were made by the states. The main cause of this decay Dr. Bogart finds in the severe restrictions that have been imposed by our state constitutions, in the last three decades, on the borrowing and taxing powers of the legislatures, because of the abuses made of these powers in the period 1820-1850. At the same time he does not fail to notice that these restrictions have, after all, only served to confirm the natural tendencies of American social and economic development to assign the more important spheres of public activity to national and local government.

In the second chapter of the monograph, the financial procedure of the states in the appropriation of money and the voting of taxes is carefully and interestingly described. The third chapter is mainly a survey of the various kinds of taxation employed. The concluding chapter deals with state debts. Dr. Bogart has presented his material in an orderly and convenient form, with only such comment and discussion as were necessary to elucidate his subject. The work is well done and merits an English dress.

A. C. M.

The Encyclopedia of Social Reform. Edited by WILLIAM D. P. BLISS, with the co-operation of many specialists. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Co., 1897. 8vo. pp. vii + 1439.

To general workers and students of social reform who are not specialists this book will be a boon. It brings within small compass a great mass of reliable information on the various social questions of the day. It is improbable *a priori* that any encyclopedia should be uniformly good. This is specially true of one that is devoted to such questions as that under consideration. The points of view from which the problems of social reform may be regarded are many and various. Each problem could be treated in as many different ways as there are points of view. It follows that the criticism bestowed upon any individual article in the book may vary according to the critic. Some subjects

have been omitted and others given greater or less prominence than those working in special fields will consider justifiable. On this point the editor states in his preface that his object has been to secure the greatest serviceability to the greatest number. The short bibliographies appended to the various articles furnish material for those who wish to pursue further a given subject. In addition to these the bibliography of bibliographies given in the appendix will be of service to the student.

Mr. Bliss has secured the best special talent in the country either to write or revise the articles on subjects in their several fields. Thus, Dr. Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia, has revised the article on Sociology. Dr. Faulkner, of the University of Pennsylvania, has contributed that on Statistics, and Lucy M. Salmon, of Vassar, that on Domestic Service; Bimetallism has been revised by Dr. Andrews, of Brown, etc.

Unsigned articles are based on standard authorities and seem to be up to date. On controverted questions there is certainly an attempt to present both sides fairly. On the various subjects treated of, for example, in political economy, the views not only of the orthodox school, but also of the modern schools are given.

The living questions of the day are treated of in many instances by those who are in the thick of the fight. Rachel Foster Avery tells about certain phases of Woman Suffrage, and Frederick de L. Booth-Tucker of the work of the Salvation Army. Mr. Reynolds and Robert Woods, among others, give accounts of the Social-Settlement movement; Social Purity, Workmen's Organizations, Charity Organizations Societies; Temperance and Divorce reform are each treated of by those prepared to speak through years of active work. These are only a few of the many articles written by well-known specialists.

An interesting feature is the brief biographies of living individuals engaged in the work of reform. Generally speaking, only those are mentioned who have at least a national reputation. It would be possible to disagree with Mr. Bliss in his choice of those to be honored by personal mention, and a wider knowledge of the workers in the various fields represented would have added to his list names quite as worthy of recognition as those included, but on the whole he seems to have made his selections with discretion.

Mr. William Bliss, the editor of this encyclopedia, is well known through his lectures on Christian Socialism and his numerous tracts on the same subject. He is also the editor of the *American Fabian*, the

(American) *Social Science Library*, and author of *A Handbook on Socialism*.

The extremely small type used in parts of the volume make reading unpleasant, and would be a fair subject of criticism were it not that a larger type used throughout would make the book unwieldy. There are some typographical errors.

K. B. DAVIS.

Die Marxistische Socialdemokratie. Von MAX LORENZ. Leipzig: George H. Wigand, 1896. 12mo. pp. xii+229.

THERE are two features of the Marxian teaching that seem to me to be of definitive significance for today and for the future: the stress laid on the concept of society, with no complacent parade of philanthropy expressing itself in soup-kitchens and alms, but asserting itself as a dominant principle which in strain and struggle resistlessly pervades the entire cultural development,—this is the first; the second is Marx's insistence on the connection between the so-called material or economic movement and the so-called spiritual movement in the evolution of society. . . . It is true, Marx has exaggerated the bearing and importance of both these points, because his work, like that of any other man, was conditioned by the circumstances of his time. But on both heads Marx has also shed such light as no one before him, nor in his time, nor—at least until the present—since his time; and that comes of the pre-eminent greatness of the man (pp. viii–ix).

There is yet a further remark to be made: It is frequently assumed that the substantial core of the Marxian doctrine is the theory of labor-value and surplus-value, and that Marx arrives at his communistic demands directly from his surplus-value theory, on the basis of some assumed principle of justice or morality which requires communism as its fulfillment. . . . But Engels disclaims, for Marx and for himself, any such "application of Morals to Economics." . . . What comes about comes, according to Marx, not for equity's or morality's sake, but it comes as a causally, historically necessary phase of social evolution. The question is then as to the character of this causal, historical necessity in Marx's apprehension. Hence, our first effort must be directed to a presentation of the so-called "Materialistic Conception of History" (pp. xi–xii).

With a reverent hand, the author then enters on a discussion of this materialistic conception, which occupies the first of the four chapters (73 pages) of the volume. He insists on the antithesis between this and the individualistic conception—the conception which has dominated all the writings of the professed historians. After